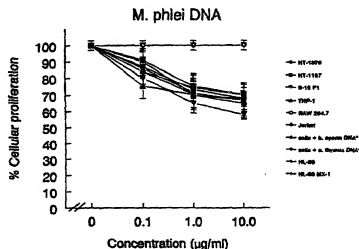




INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification 6 : A61K 31/70		A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 99/07383
		(43) International Publication Date: 18 February 1999 (18.02.99)	
(21) International Application Number: PCT/CA98/00744		(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).	
(22) International Filing Date: 5 August 1998 (05.08.98)			
(30) Priority Data: 60/054,777 5 August 1997 (05.08.97) US 60/075,067 18 February 1998 (18.02.98) US 60/075,111 18 February 1998 (18.02.98) US 60/086,317 21 May 1998 (21.05.98) US			
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(54) Title: COMPOSITION AND METHOD FOR REGULATING CELL PROLIFERATION AND CELL DEATH



(57) Abstract

The present invention relates to a composition and method useful for regulating cell proliferation and cell death in a multicellular organism. The present invention particularly relates to a composition comprising a bacterial DNA (B-DNA) and a first pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein the B-DNA induces a response in responsive cells of an animal. The present invention more particularly relates to a composition comprising a mycobacterial DNA (M-DNA) and a first pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein the M-DNA inhibits proliferation of responsive cells of an animal, induces apoptosis in responsive cells of an animal, and stimulates responsive cells of the immune system of an animal to produce bioactive molecules. Methods of making the M-DNA composition and methods of using the M-DNA composition also are disclosed.